

Valley of The Horses

Heber Valley is home to horse lovers of all kinds. Drive through the green fields here and you will see pastures full of Paints, Thoroughbreds, Morgans, Arabians and, of course, Quarter horses. Breeders like the mountain climate to raise young horses for the same reason tourists like to visit. There is plenty of sunshine, fresh air and room to move.

The County Fairgrounds provides a safe, well-groomed facility to hold rodeos, horse shows, and training clinics. 4-H horse clubs meet at the fairgrounds as do the Pony Club, The Rodeo Club, and the area roping association.

Local ranchers and cowboys still use horses to make their living. Naturally in an area where cowboys ply their trade, we have rodeo and timed horse events for cowboys and cowgirls alike, and Heber Valley has some of the best.

Heber Valley is also a haven for English-style riding. Jumping, dressage, three-day event, and polo enthusiasts, are active with horse shows and training clinics held all spring, summer, and fall.

The surrounding country provides the most active of all equestrian sports: pleasure riding. Choose any direction from Heber and you will find breathtaking country with a network of horse trails through National Forests. Several local escorts provide guided horse trips into the mountains.

Anywhere you find well-bred horses and active horse people, you will also find a community of professionals in business. Heber Valley is no exception with fine trainers, veterinarians, and farriers making this place their home.

Whether you come to Heber to stake out a piece of horse property, to search for your dream horse or just for an afternoon ride, Heber Valley could truthfully be called the Valley of The Horses.



Ben Quinters, a Heber Valley trainer.



Red Ribbon Riders Are Tops in Riding Groups

15 Aug 1970
Tuesday, August 4, seven members of the Red Ribbon Riders traveled to Nephi, Utah, where they represented their county very well in the State 4-H Horse Show. At 10:00 a.m. all took a written test, and then participated in the events, beginning at 11:00 a. m.

Sheila Probst won a blue in fitting and showmanship, a blue in western trail class and a red in western pleasure, and ran the barrels and poles. Kathy Wilson won a blue ribbon in fitting and showmanship, a blue in western pleasure, and ran the barrels and poles. Becky LaFay won a blue in fitting and showmanship and ran the poles. Vicki Cummings won a white ribbon in western pleasure, a red ribbon in trail class, and ran the barrels and poles. Karen Jones won a red in fitting and showmanship, white in western pleasure, and a white in western trail class. Leslie McPhie won a red in fitting and showmanship, a white in western trail class, and ran the barrels. Debbie Ford won a white ribbon in western pleasure, a white ribbon in trail class, and ran the poles.

At the Awards Program afterwards, they all received cer-

tificates. The RRR would like to thank all parents who went, their leaders, Ginger Wright and JoAnn Warr, and a special thanks is extended to Bonner Fitzgerald.

Thursday, August 6, the Red Ribbon Riders did very well at the 4-H and County Horse Shows. This outstanding club won a total of three purple ribbons, 19 blue ribbons, 17 red, 9 white ribbons, and 2 green ribbons. Trophies were won by Terry Wright for pole bending, Sheila Probst for fitting and showmanship, and Vicki Cummings for western pleasure.

Friday and Saturday, August 7 and 8, the RRR participated in the Wasatch County Fair Parade and Rodeo. They were very thrilled to receive their first-place trophy for the Outstanding Riding Club for the fifth consecutive year.

The RRR traveled to Murray to participate in the Salt Lake County Fair Parade. In their beautiful red and white outfits, they represented Wasatch County very well as they won another first-place trophy. They would like to thank all parents who went, and extend a special thanks to Kyle Cummings.

Another Fun Day Scheduled for Young Riders

It's that time of month again and all boys and girls who own or can beg, borrow or steal a horse or pony are anticipating another fun day of games on horseback. They all agreed that the last one was a full-fledged success and have been looking forward to one this month.

It will be held at the Fairgrounds Arena on Saturday night the 15th of August at 6:30 p. m. The same nominal fee of 25c will be charged for entry into each event and ribbons will be given to third place. There will be three age groups in order to give the children a fair chance.

The games promise to be fun this time with: Musical tires, ballon busting, tube race, rescue race and the flag race.

So be sure and tell all the children you know who want to participate in these games and all you adults come and watch to see a real swell bunch of kids perform, after all this is all that is open to children in this area, most of the horse activities are for the adults. Don't forget we also have some of the best refreshments you will ever taste.

This event is sponsored by the Wasatch County Recreation Department and managed jointly by London Springs Stables and the Lazy F Saddle Shop.

Monday, March 3, 1986

This artist trots out a fine realism about horses

PROVO — Some artists paint horses as they really are. Others paint them as they think they should be.

The matter came to mind, again, at the excellent exhibit of artist David J. Harris in the Provo Utilities Building Gallery, which ran through February.

David Harris, an elementary school teacher but "a cowboy at heart," paints horses as they are. His several cowboy scenes show the Western horse as it was — sometimes handsome, usually beautiful to its owner, but more often utilitarian.

The working Western saddle horse was everything he needed to be, but he usually was not prancing, neck arched and nostrils flaring. He was unlike the Arabian, which fits that description. And, incidently, the Arabian is no stranger to Western horsemen. Some of the most beautiful Arabians alive are bred in America today by horse fanciers and the hobby riding club members.

I learned to ride when I was so small I couldn't get on without a box or a fence. I had my own pony in Heber, something I didn't realize again for years after we moved to a farm in Bothwell east of Tremonton. There I rode Tony, a converted workhorse, who was lean and rangy but also ewe-necked and certainly not prancy — but to me he was as beautiful as the grandest Arabian.



Theron
H. Luke

AS IT LOOKS
TO LUKE

Later I raised Dan from a colt and rode him. He was big and fractious and I was always a little afraid of him, which he well knew. But he was buck-kneed, which would rule him out in any showing before he even entered.

He was mine, however, and I had raised him from birth. With my father's help I broke him to ride, although he never bucked. His specialty was lunging into a U-turn and heading for home, until I finally got up the courage to set him back on his heels with curb bit (the only way I could hold him) and beat him along the side of his head until he finally reformed. No, I don't believe in beating horses. Bridle reins along the side of the head is not undue cruelty, and with some horses, like the mule of the story, you've got to get their attention.

I look back on Dan with some sadness. It was the dream of my life to raise my own horse from a colt, but he required a very firm hand. You either ruled him or he ruled you. I ruled him with my heart in my mouth and scared to death, but I won. I guess, without realizing it, it was one my more important victories.

But back to what the artists do with horses. Sorry if I got off the track, but old farm boy memories took over for a moment.

Four Western artists come to mind, actually five if you count David Harris. Frederic Remington and Charlie Russell painted horses as they were. Remington's Indian horses were real almost to the point of cruelty — underfed, scrawny, ewe-necked and scraggly. Remington was an Eastern aristocrat who went west and, to his everlasting credit, painted the West as it really was. Russell, a born and bred Westerner, did likewise.

Two early artists who went west in the 1830s gave us some of our earliest pictorial records of the American Indian. They were magnificent artists, and their Indian portraits were probably pretty lifelike. But not their horses.

Most Indian ponies were tough as rawhide and sometimes made equine monkeys out of the bigger U.S. cavalry horses, but they were usually inbred, underfed and on the scrawny side. Except for the Appaloosa, developed into a distinct, superior breed by the Nez Perce, Indian ponies generally could never have won in the show ring.

The two early artists were George Catlin and Charles Bodmer, who painted the Plains Indians, and their horses. Every Indian horse in a Catlin or Bodmer painting made Arabians look almost shabby. Every Indian pony was big, prancy, arch-necked and nostrils flaring. Several historians and the curator of the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyo., all have agreed with my theory that their horses were what they envisioned a horse should be, not what an Indian pony was.

I guess it really doesn't matter. Catlin and Bodmer were great artists who gave us among our earliest records of the American Indian. But when it comes to horses, I'll take Remington, Russell and David Harris.

New Rodeo Queen to be Crowned

Terese Bassett, the reigning 85-86 Wasatch County Rodeo Queen, will be crowning her successor this Friday night.

Terese is the daughter of Dick and Karen Bassett, and is a graduate of Wasatch High School. Her main interests has always been horses. She started riding when she was two years old. She joined the Heber 4-H riding club at 7, and during her high school years was a member of the FFA Horse Judging Team that went to state finals. She was a member of the WHS Rodeo Club for four years, and competed in cow cutting. In 1985

she was part of the Utah Team that qualified for the National High School Finals in South Dakota. Terese was also a part of the County Rodeo Royalty in 1983.

This year's contest will be held Friday, June 20th. The personality and appearance part of the competition will be at the Hub Cafe 2:00 p.m. The girls will be judged on modeling, their two-minute talks - and will be interviewed by the judges.

At 7:00 p.m. the contestants will exhibit their horsemanship skills. The public is invited to attend.

19 June 1986



Terese Bassett

Rodeo Contestants are Chosen

1986 Senior Contestants

Kym Purcell, daughter of Gordon and Lorraine Purcell, Karen Mair, daughter of Clint and Judy Mair; Erica Becker, daughter of Bob and Joyce Becker; Julie Dansie, daughter of Chuck and Carol Dansie; Marie Dansie, daughter of Chuck and Carol Dansie; Melanie Mills, daughter of Steven D. Mills and Bonnie R. Smith; Monique Bethers, daughter of Dale and Carol Bethers, and Cindy Reeder, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Reeder.

Jr. Rodeo Contestants

Jeanne Sweat, daughter of Lew and Maxine Sweat, Dennis McKenzie, daughter of Dennis and Peggy McKenzie; Stephanie Gertsch, daughter of Keith Gertsch and Suzan Mair; Trica Gale, daughter of Ronald Gale; Elizabeth McNaughton, daughter of Don and LouAnn McNaughton; Robbie Ryan, daughter of Mick and Barbara Ryan, Kimba Burgener, daughter of Kelvin and Diane Burgener, and Jenny Lippnik, daughter of Jo and Karen Lippnik.



Erica Becker



Cindy Reeder



Julie Dansie



Melanie Mills



Karen Mair



Marie Dansie



Monique Bethers



Kim Purcell